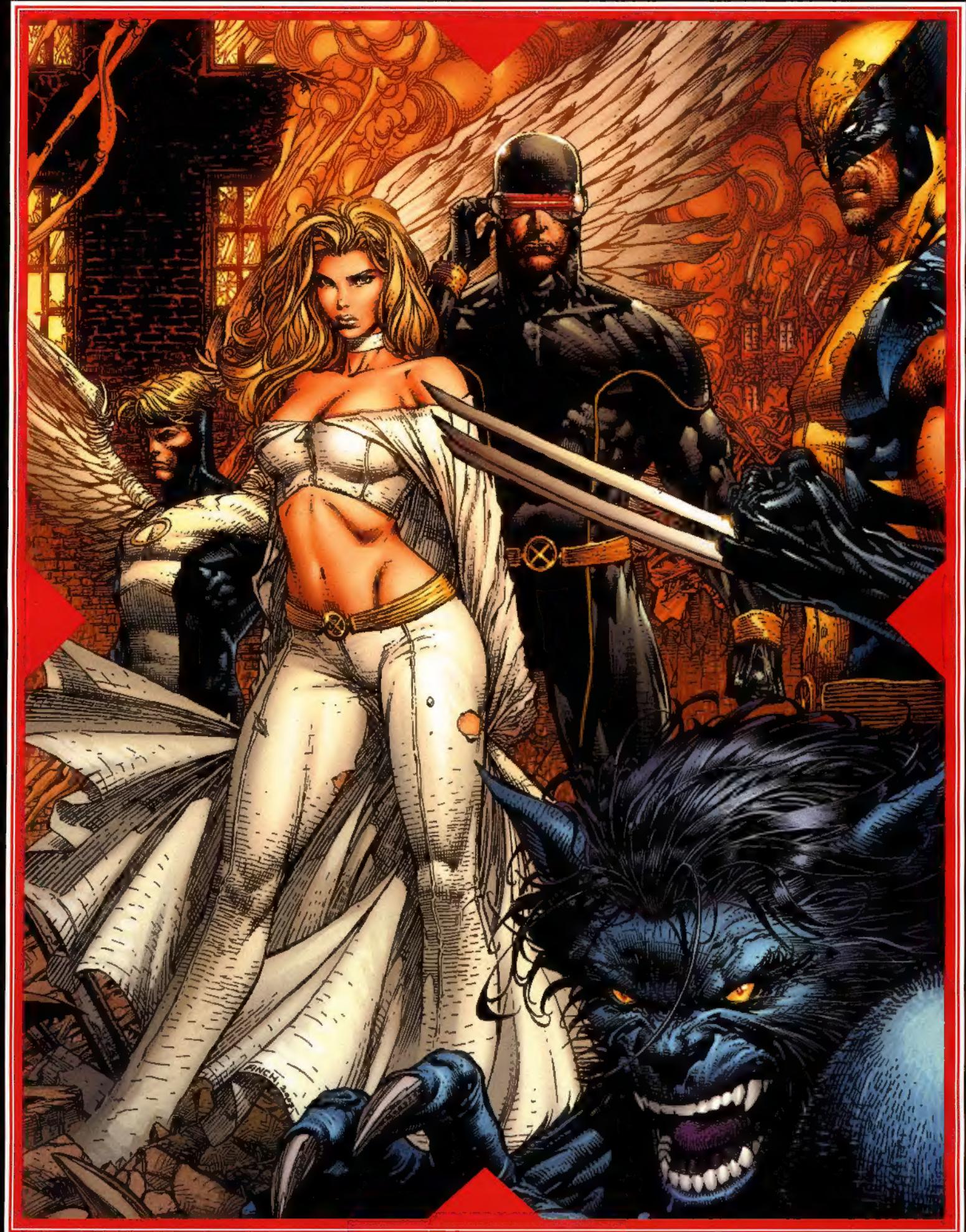


UNCANNY X-MEN[®]

ISSUE 494



RATED T+



DIRECT EDITION

7 59606 02461 2

\$2.99 US \$3.05 CAN

MESSIAH COMPLEX

chapter ten

BRUBAKER

MARVEL

TAN

MESSIAH COMPLEX

CHAPTER TEN

UNCANNY X-MEN



DIRECT EDITION

RATED T+



\$2.99 US \$3.05 CAN

MARVEL
VARIANT
EDITION

494

BRUBAKER
TAN



After M-Day, mutantkind neared extinction. Once hailed as humanity's replacement, it appeared mutants, now reduced to a few hundred, would fade into oblivion. But a new mutant baby has arrived, the first since M-Day, and with it, hope for mutantkind.

Previously in MESSIAH COMPLEX...

Rogue mutant Cable has kidnapped the mutant baby. Fighting through evil geneticist Mr. Sinister's Marauders, the mercenary Reavers and the X-Men's black ops squad X-Force, Cable has made his way to Dallas, Texas. His destination? Mutant-inventor Forge's workshop, where he plans to use Forge's technology to fix his time-travel device and escape with the baby.

Meanwhile, Layla Miller and a duplicate of Jamie Madrox, the Multiple Man, have jumped through time with the aid of Forge's machinery. They've landed in a dystopian future where mutant persecution is rampant, and have since been imprisoned and branded, while still on the hunt for secrets to the baby's future.

Back in the present, Cable reached Forge's lab. To his horror, he not only found Forge wounded and bleeding on the floor, but fell victim to Forge's attacker—the X-Man Bishop.

CHAPTER TEN:

Ed Brubaker: *Writer*

Billy Tan: *Penciler*

Danny Miki with Allen Martinez: *Inkers*

Frank D'Armata: *Colorist*

Joe Caramagna: *Letterer*

Will Panzo: *Assistant Editor*

Nick Lowe: *Editor*

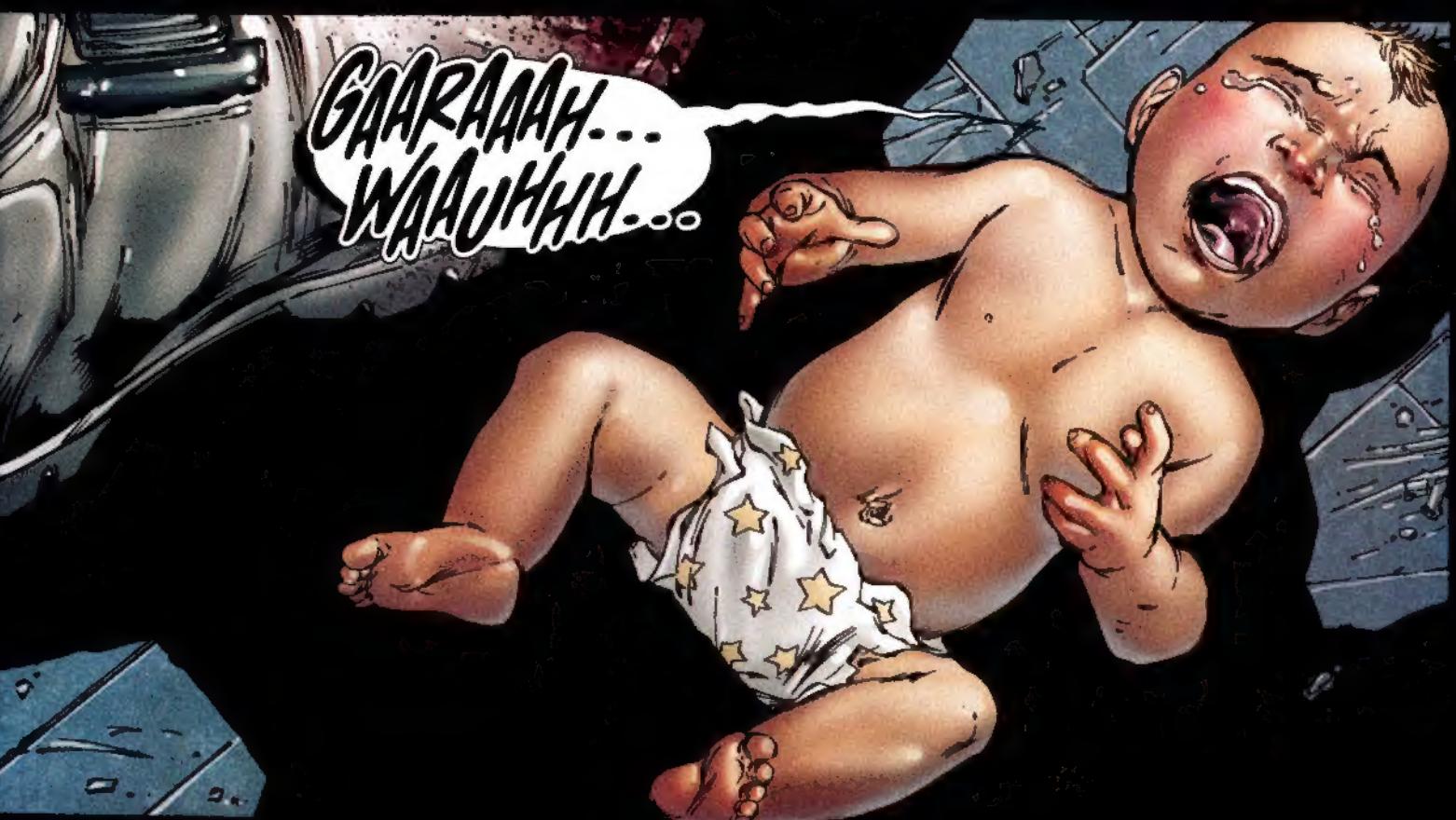
Axel Alonso: *Executive Editor*

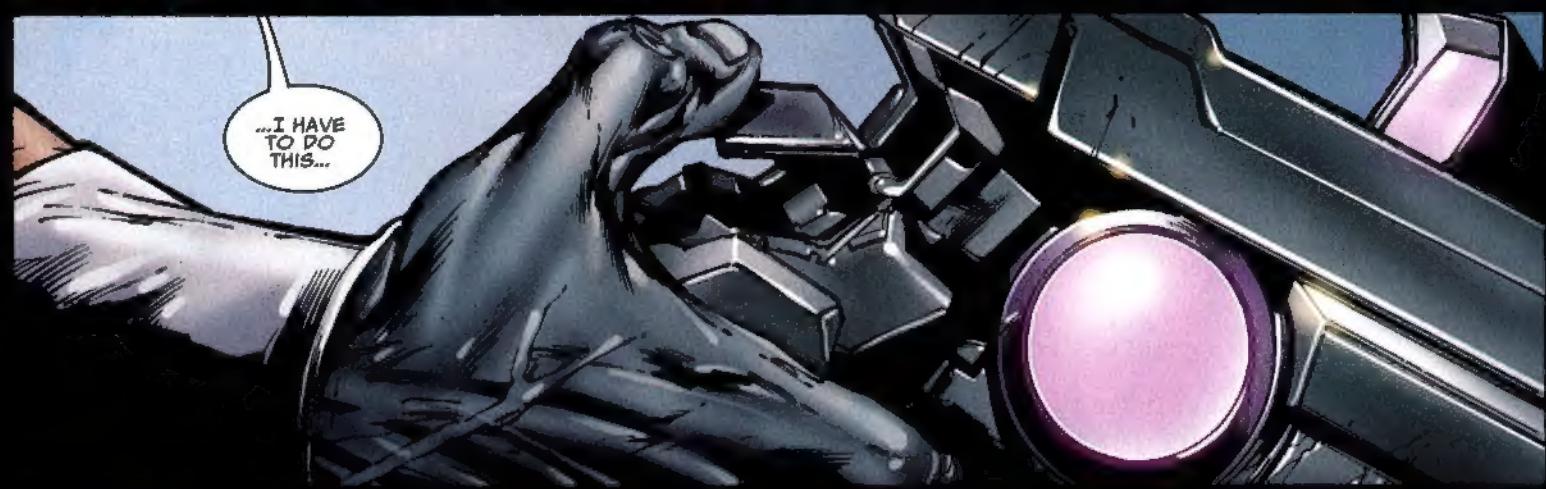
Joe Quesada: *Editor in Chief*

Dan Buckley: *Publisher*

Cover A by: Finch, Keith

Cover B by: Simones Bianchi and Peruzzi



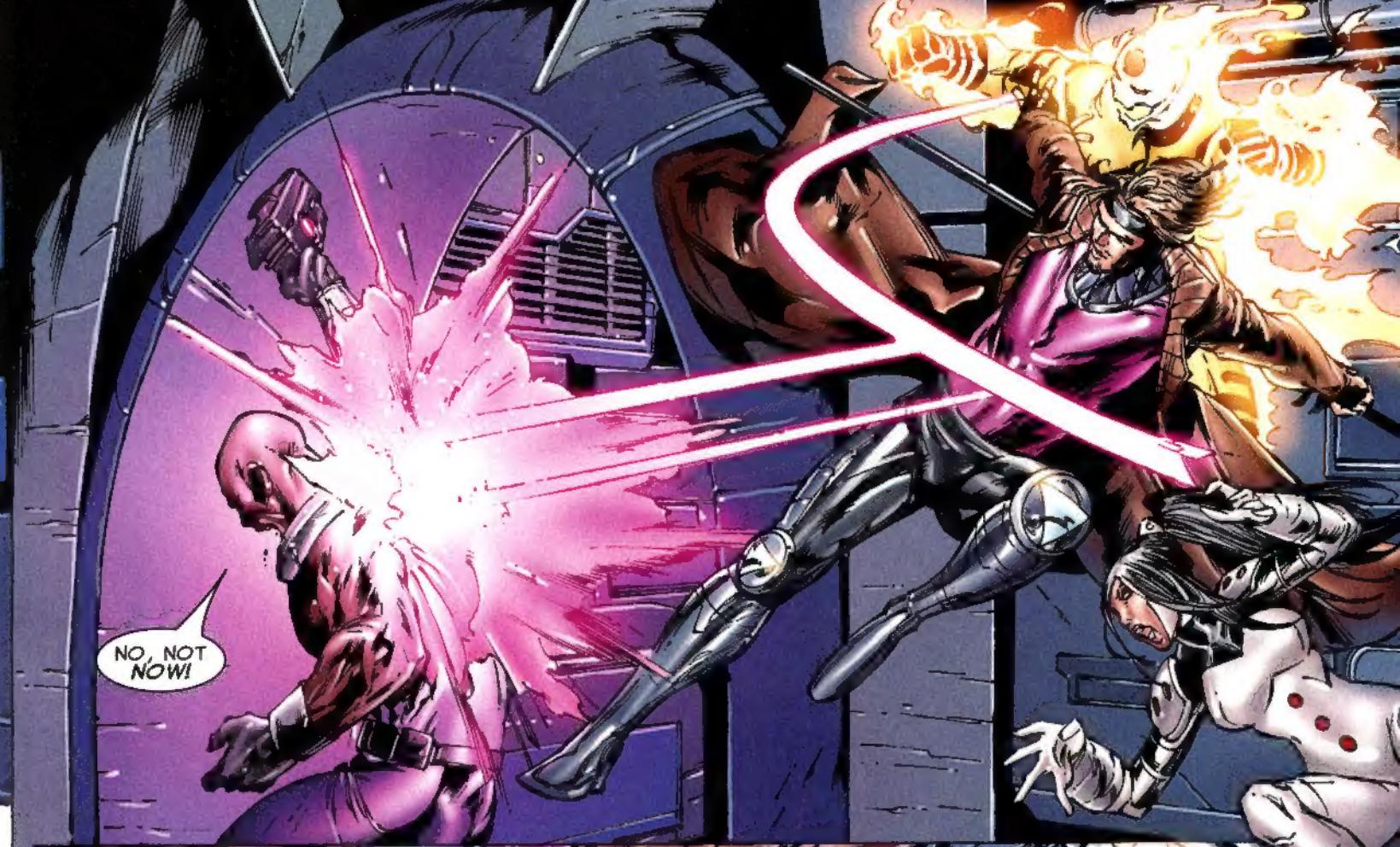


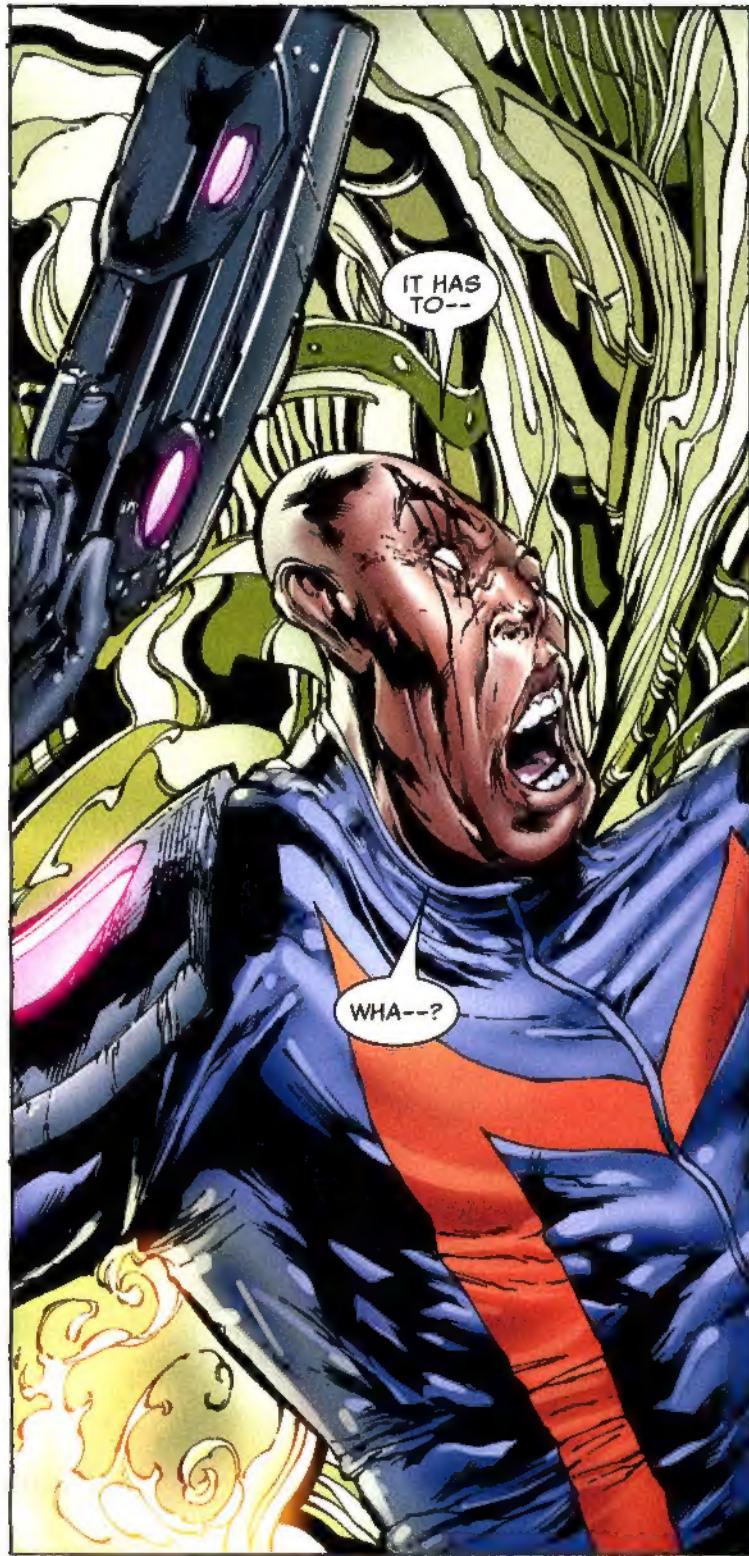


...BUT I
DON'T THINK
THAT'S HAPPENIN'
TODAY, BISHOP...

THOUGH
I MUST CONFESS,
IT'S NICE TO SEE
YOUR TRUE COLORS
AFTER ALL
THESE YEARS.

No!





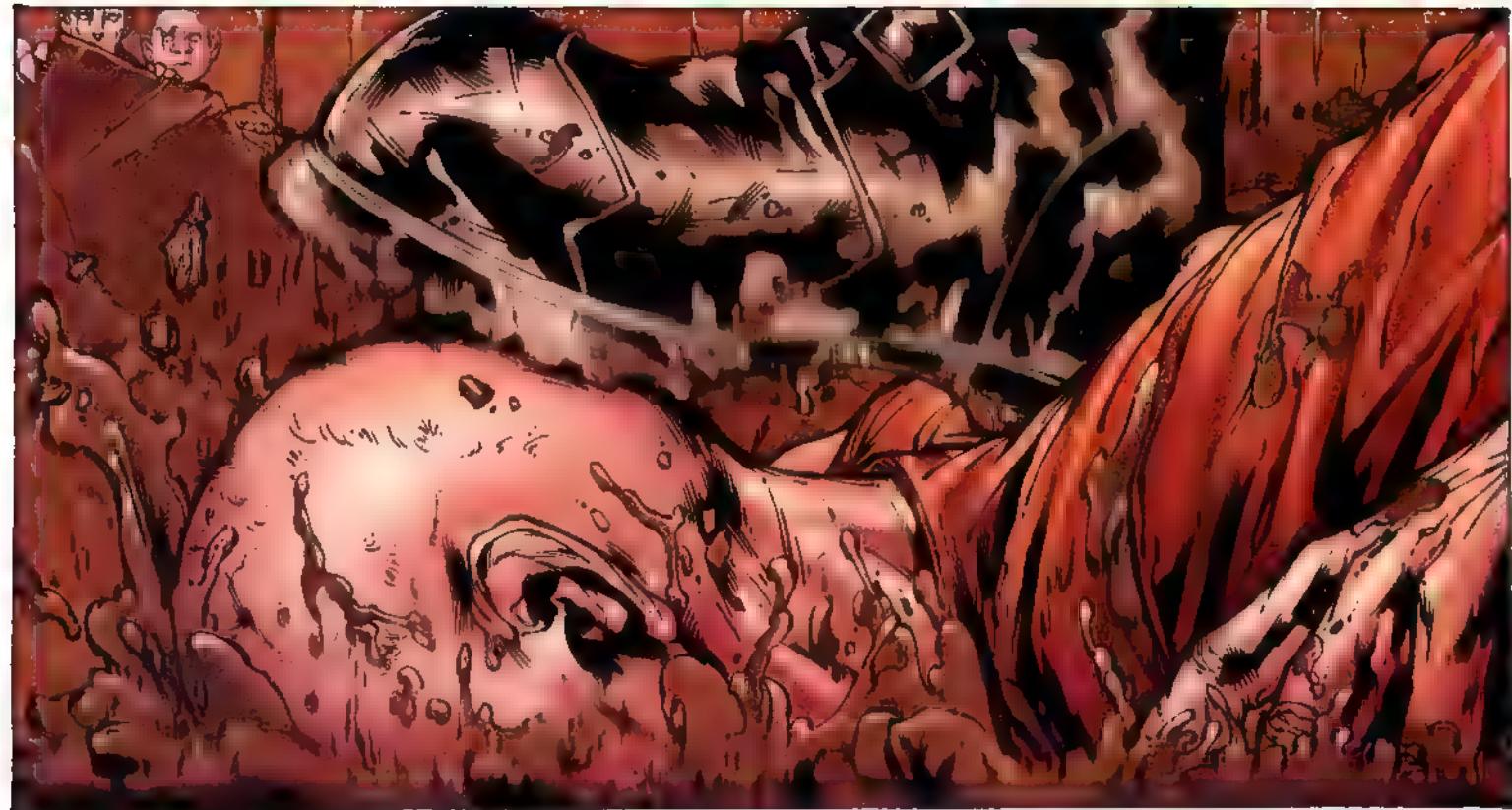


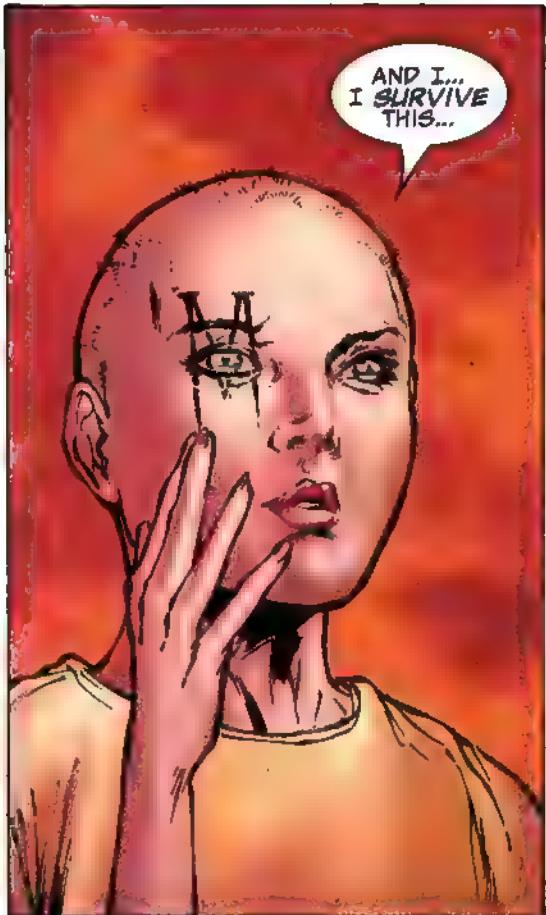












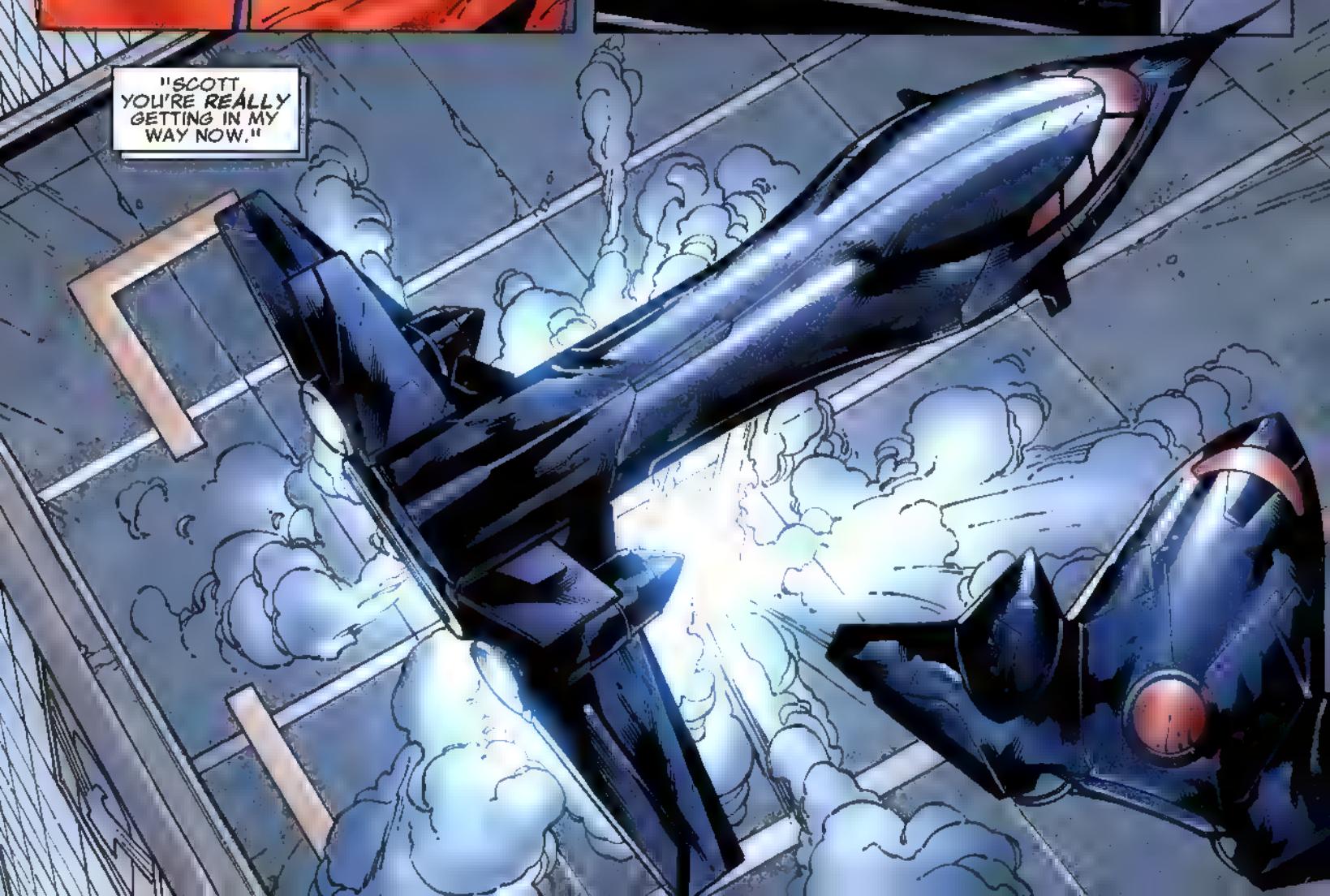
EAGLE PLAZA--
PRESENT DAY.

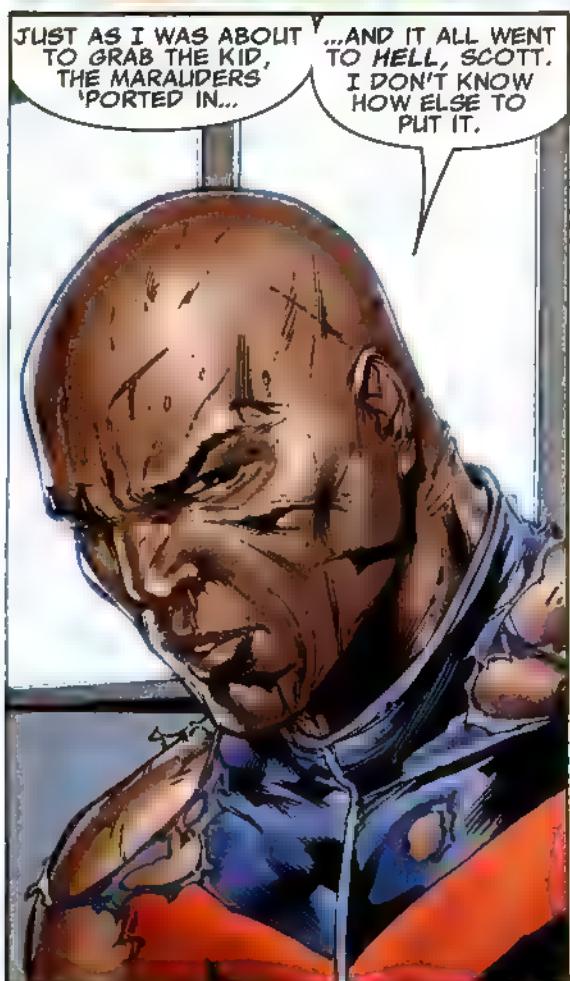
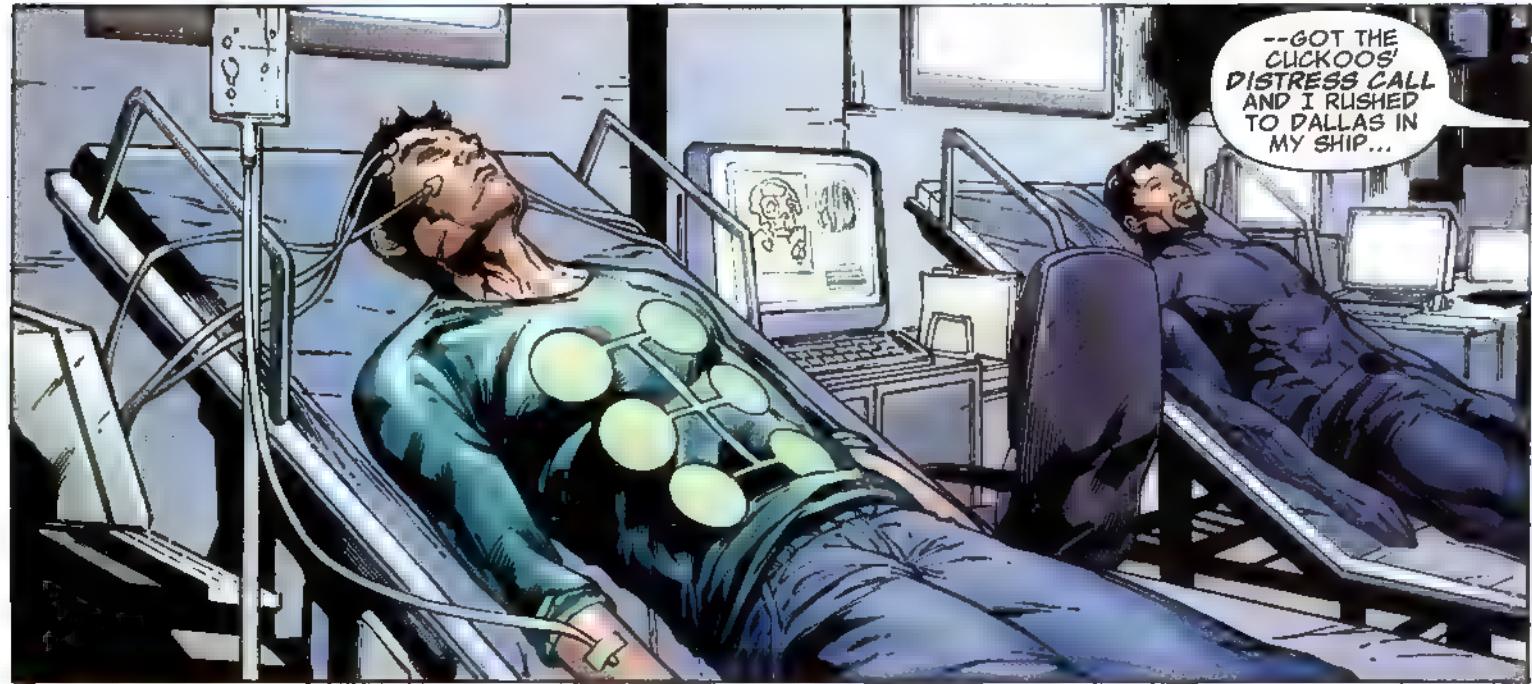
C'MON...
C'MON...
GIVE ME
A READING,
BLAST IT.

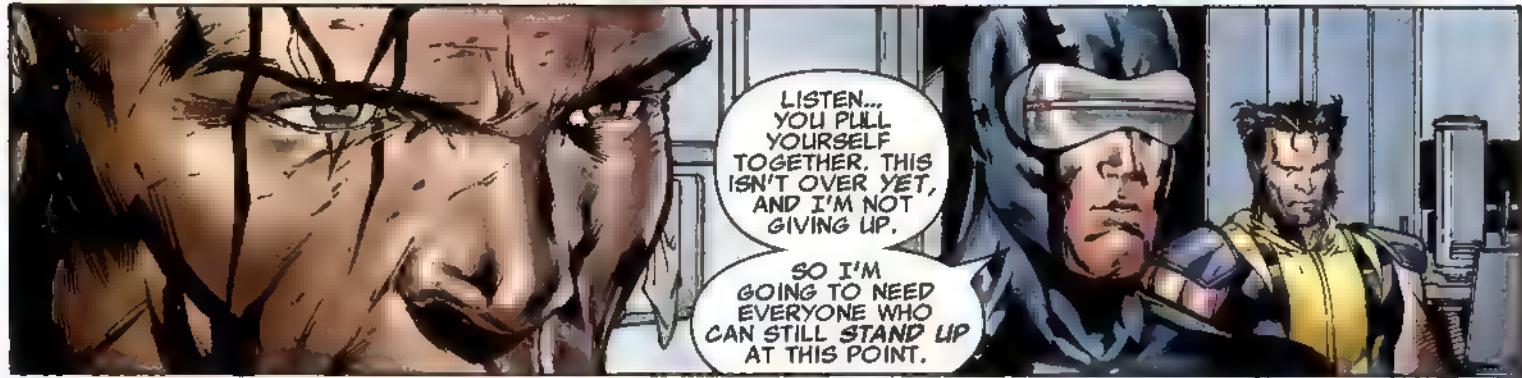
X-MEN
BLACKBIRD
MACH-TWO
LANDING ON
ROOFTOP.

NO! THEY'RE
ALREADY HERE?!
I NEED MORE
TIME...

"SCOTT,
YOU'RE REALLY
GETTING IN MY
WAY NOW."



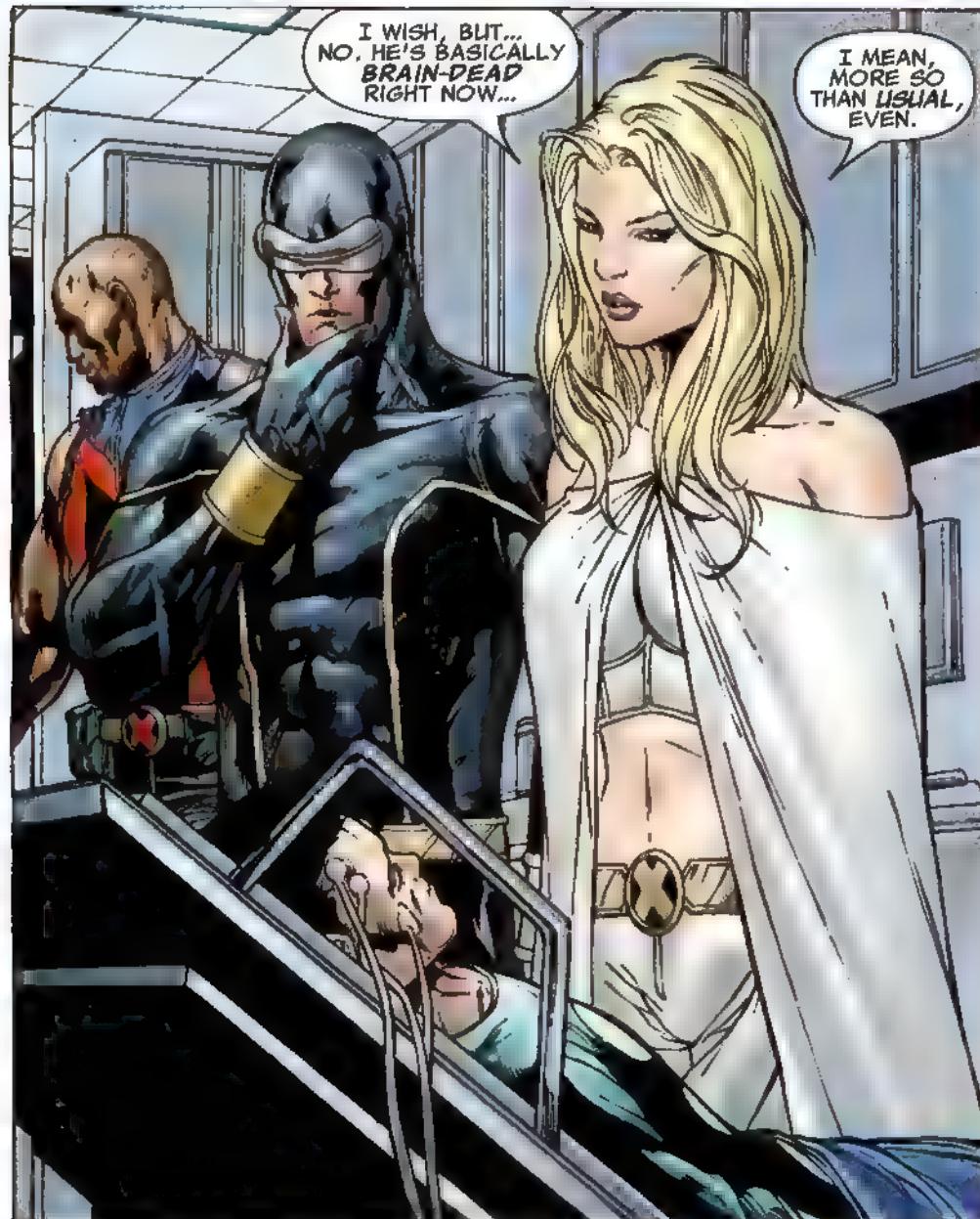




SO I'M GOING TO NEED EVERYONE WHO CAN STILL STAND UP AT THIS POINT.



YOU MEAN AM I PICKING UP ANY MESSAGES FROM THE FUTURE?



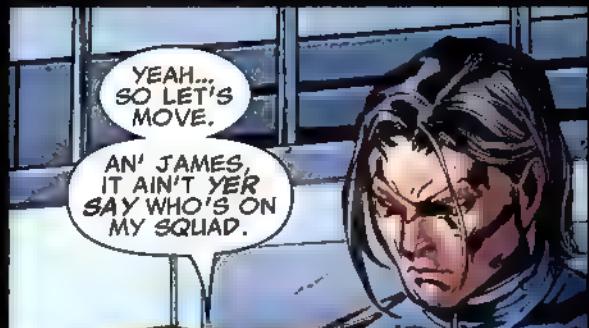
I MEAN, MORE SO THAN USUAL, EVEN.



YEAH, WHY?

BECAUSE WE LOST ONE OF OURS.





IT'S SIMPLE, GIRLS... IF YOU CAN'T LOCK ONTO THE CHILD'S ENERGY SIGNAL, YOU TRACK THE MUTANTS WHO KIDNAPPED IT, INSTEAD.

OF COURSE, WHY DIDN'T WE THINK OF THAT?

WE WOULD HAVE, EVENTUALLY.

WE'RE ONLY THREE, AFTER ALL.

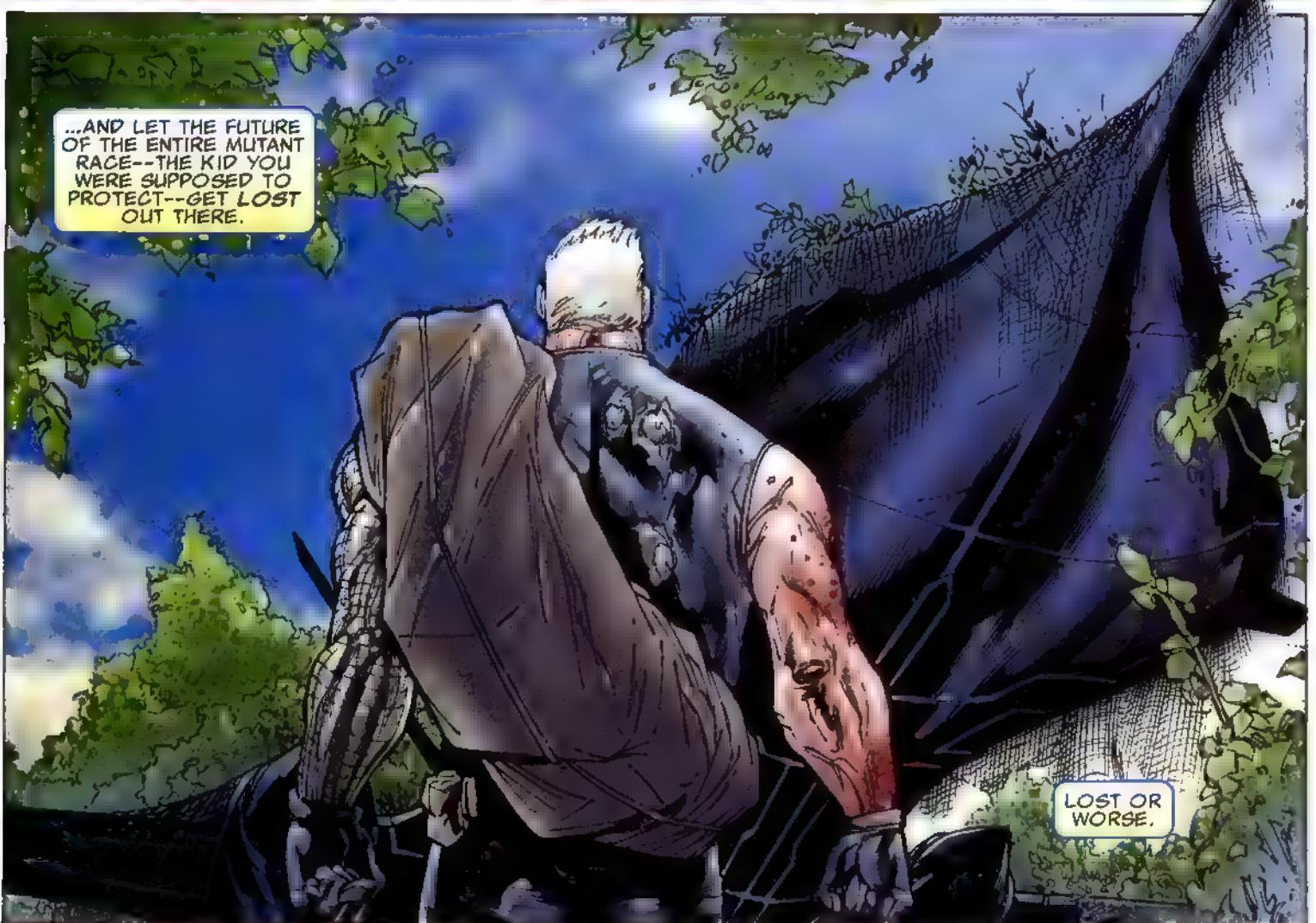
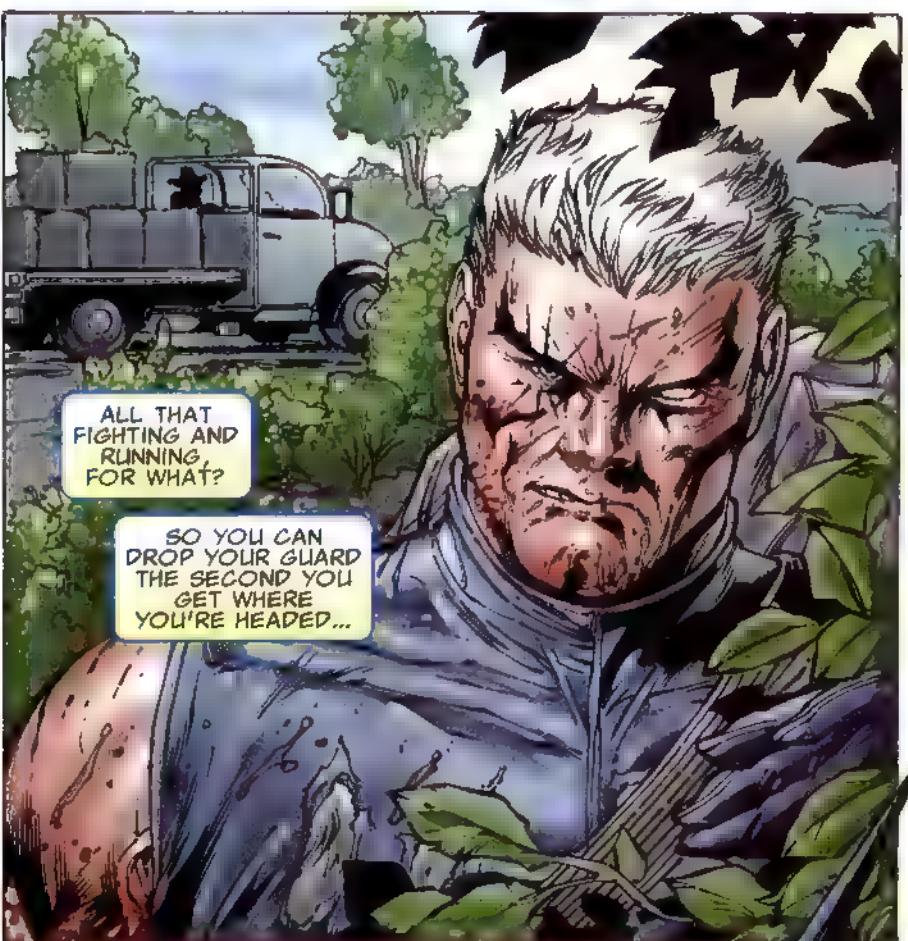
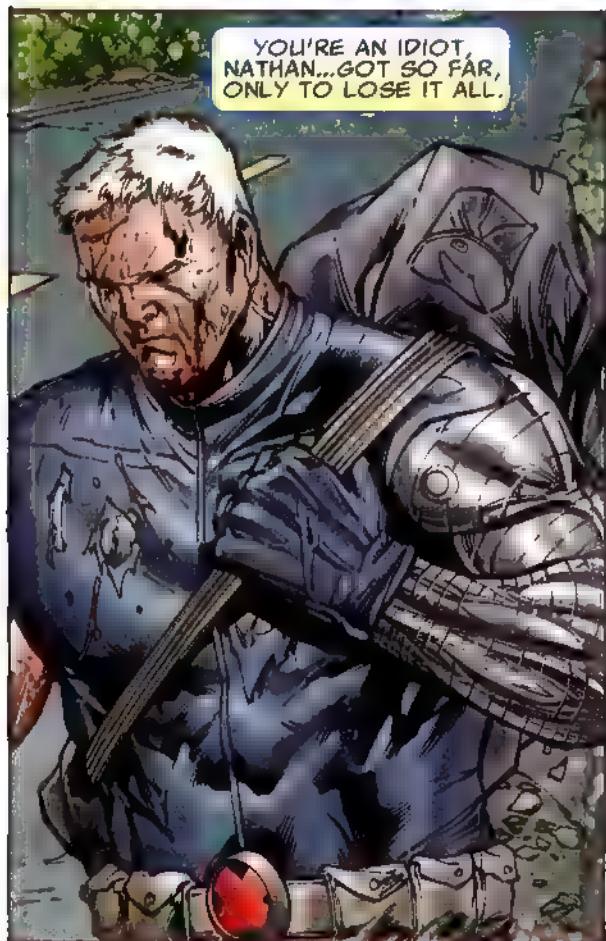
AND TELL THEM TO TRY TO FIND CABLE, TOO.

HE'S DONE TOO MUCH DAMAGE ALREADY...

WE NEED TO SHUT HIM DOWN, FOR GOOD.

NO MORE FIGHTING ON TWO FRONTS.

THE OUTSKIRTS
OF DALLAS.



LOOK WHO'S TALKING!

AWARD-WINNING COMIC BOOK
WRITER BRIAN MICHAEL BENDIS

MARVEL: You got "Freaky Friday" (Spidey & Wolverine switched bodies) and now "Amazing Friends" (Spidey teams up with Iceman and Firestar) green-lit. Are there any stories in Ultimate Spider-Man that you've pitched that have been rejected?

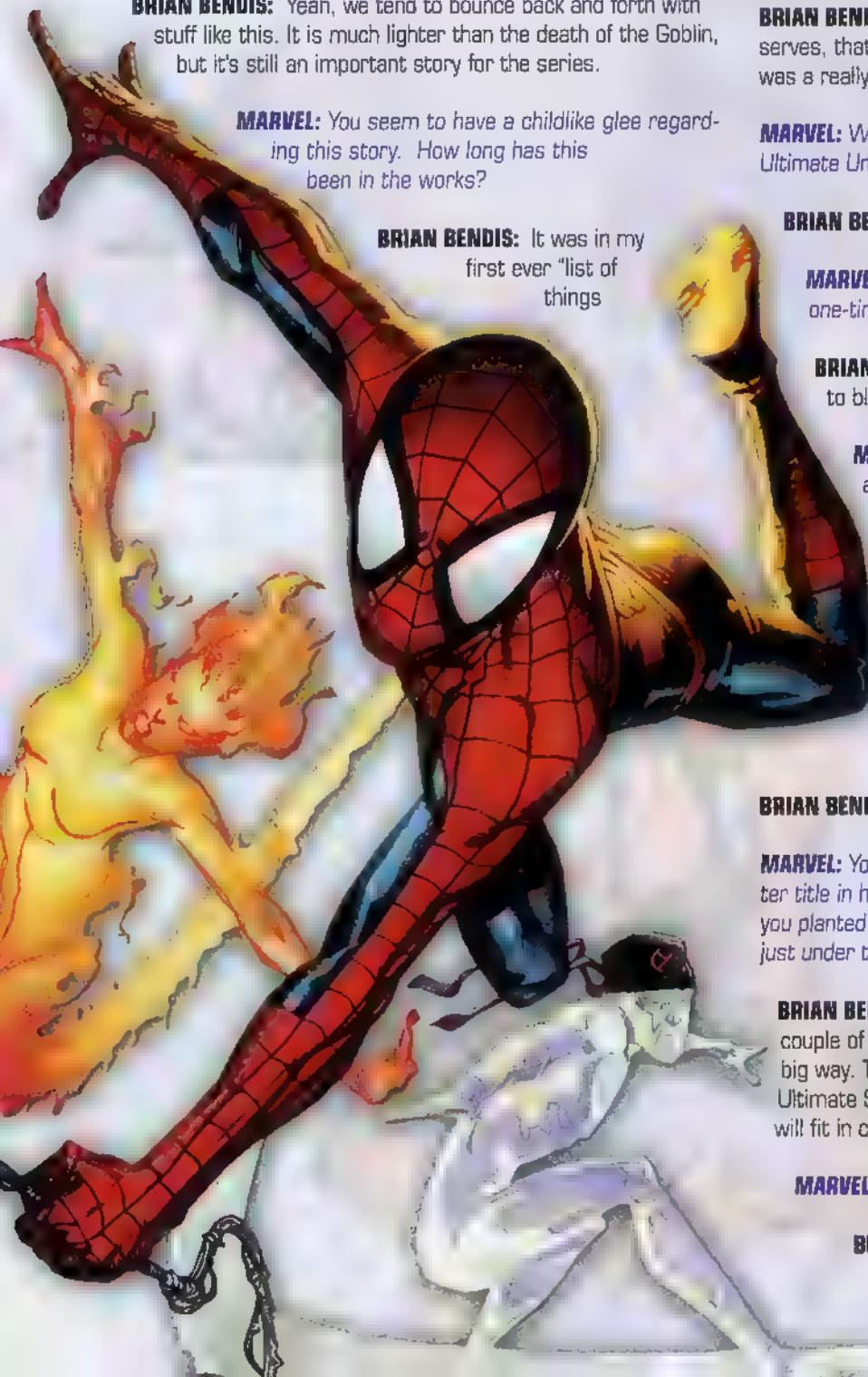
BRIAN BENDIS: I'm trying to think. I have a pretty good sense of what won't get the green light so I try not to climb a hill I know can't be climbed. I do have a rather controversial story coming some time next year that got a tentative green light, but it was a hard sell. We'll see if it makes the light of day.

MARVEL: We're coming out of a very dark time in the lives of Pete and his supporting cast. Will this be a lighthearted story or is there more to this than the surface seems to suggest?

BRIAN BENDIS: Yeah, we tend to bounce back and forth with stuff like this. It is much lighter than the death of the Goblin, but it's still an important story for the series.

MARVEL: You seem to have a childlike glee regarding this story. How long has this been in the works?

BRIAN BENDIS: It was in my first ever "list of things"



to do" when I got the book back in 1999. Followed by a note to myself saying: "How the @#*\$% can you pull that off?" It took 118 issues to get the pieces in order.

MARVEL: We've met Iceman before, but not Firestar. Is she someone new or someone we've already met?

BRIAN BENDIS: She is someone we have met... BUT NOW SHE IS ON FIRE!

MARVEL: Were you a fan of the Spider-Man and his Amazing Friends cartoon from the 1980's?

BRIAN BENDIS: Oh yeah. There were some episodes, if memory serves, that were far superior in quality of animation than others. I was a really big fan of those.

MARVEL: Will Ms. Lion be making her long-overdue appearance in the Ultimate Universe?

BRIAN BENDIS: Sadly, that would be a no.

MARVEL: Is this going to be an ongoing team-up or a one-time thing?

BRIAN BENDIS: Probably a one-time thing as Jeph Loeb is going to blow up the Ultimate Universe in a few months.

MARVEL: Will they fight Videoman? (Editor's Note – In the animated series, Videoman was a villain created from an arcade game... seriously.)

BRIAN BENDIS: I thought about it, but decided that Magneto is the better choice in relation to me keeping my job.

MARVEL: Have you ever moved someone's football statue just to see if the room would change into a super-duper high-tech hangout?

BRIAN BENDIS: Other than Joe Quesada's? No.

MARVEL: You're working on one of the longest runs on a single-character title in history, and yet you've managed to bring things forward that you planted the seeds for years ago. Are there other subplots boiling just under the surface that fans should keep their eyes on?

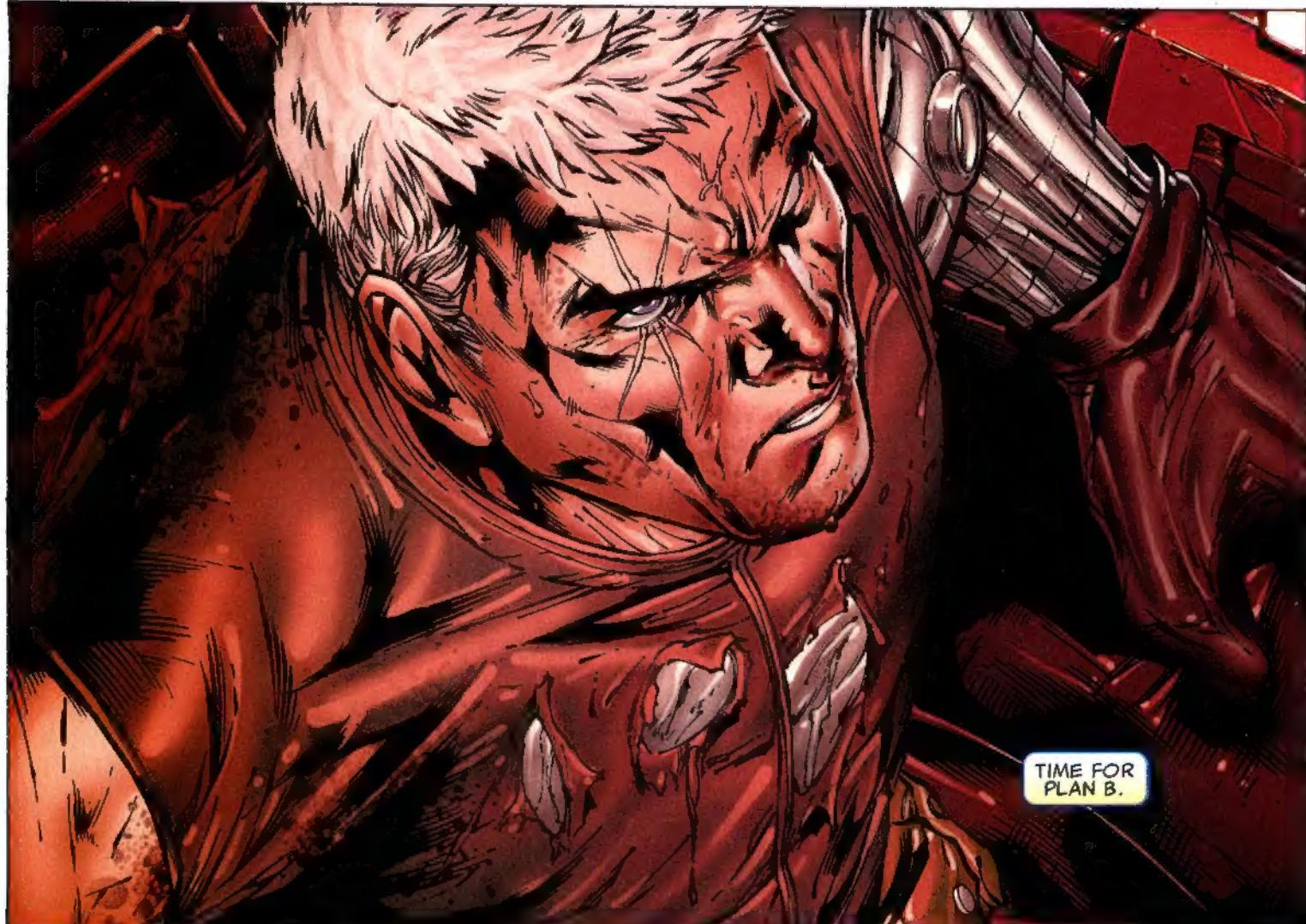
BRIAN BENDIS: Well, right after "Amazing Friends," we have a couple of one-shot stories that pay off some characters in a pretty big way. Then after that we are adapting and expanding on the Ultimate Spider-Man story from the video game we did, so now it will fit in continuity perfectly.

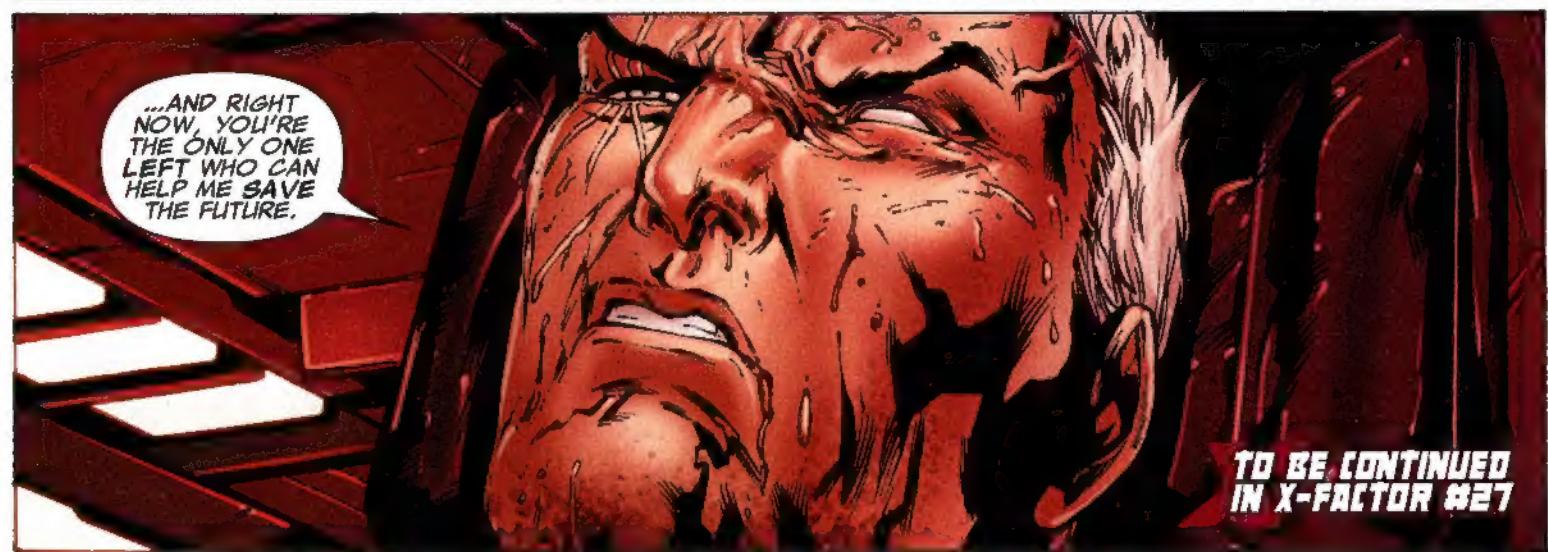
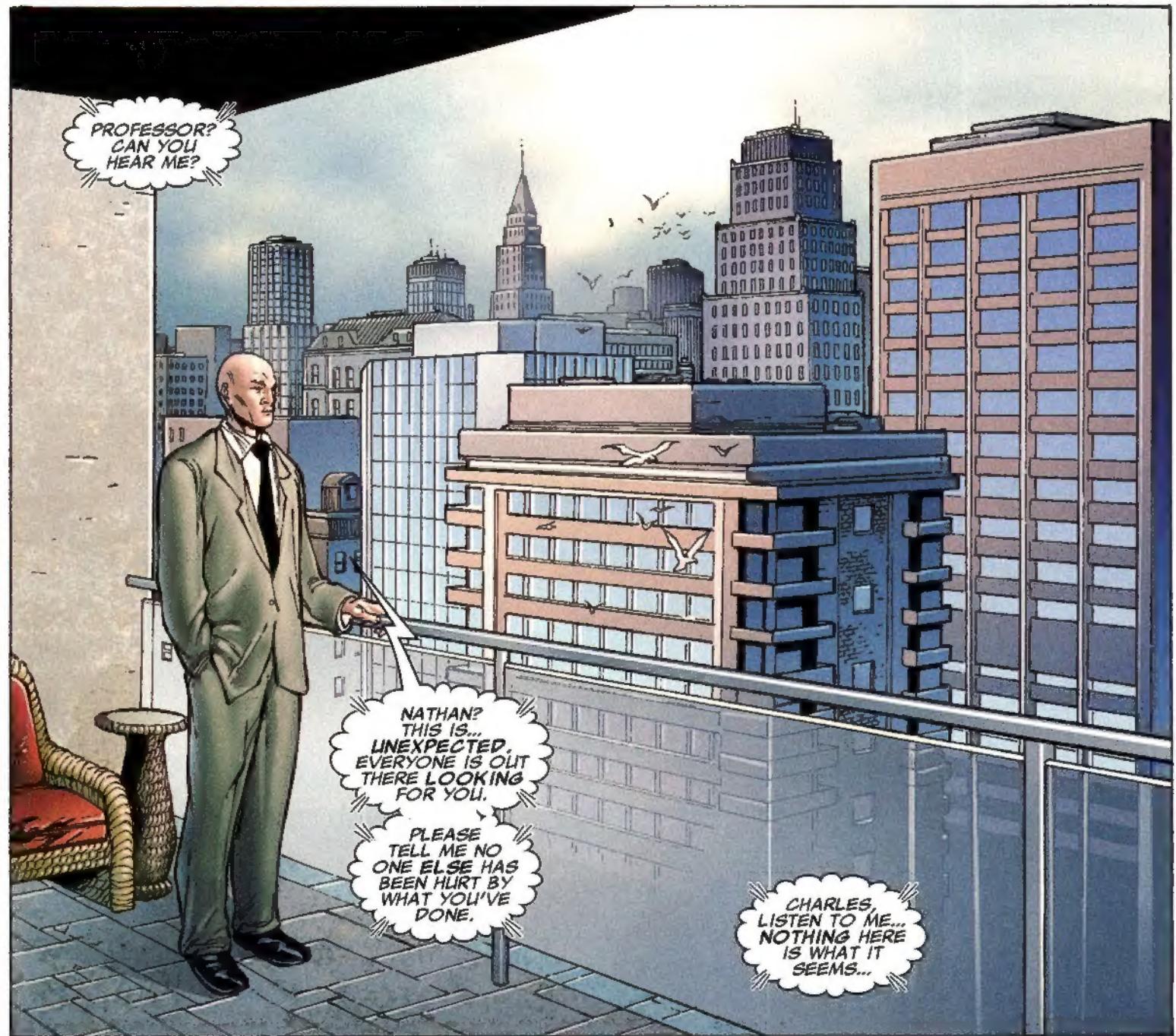
MARVEL: How far out do you have this book plotted?

BRIAN BENDIS: I'm honestly well into the 140's. I'm scripting issue 126 now.

'Nuff Said!







X-MEN: MESSIAH COMPLEX

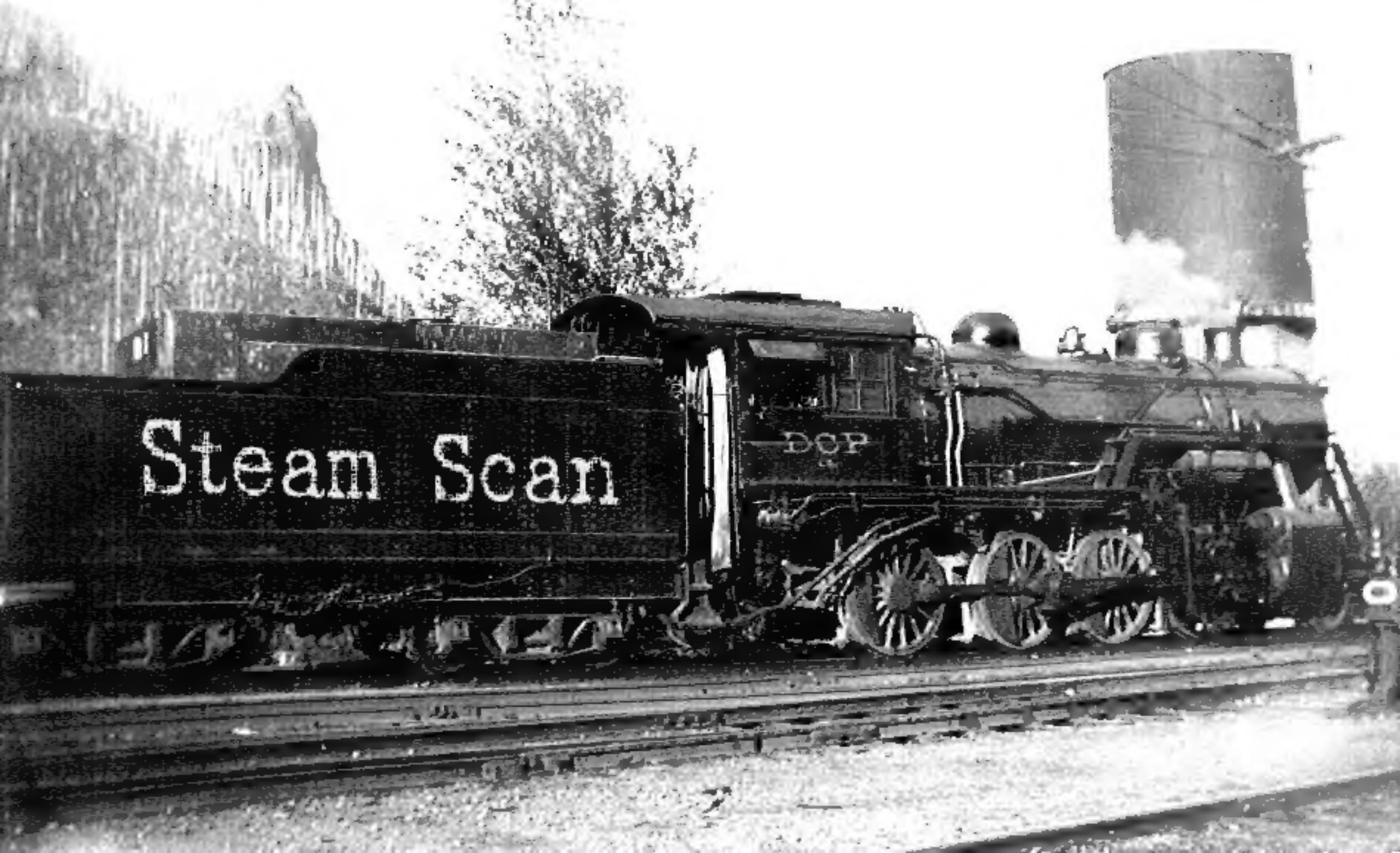
CHAPTER 11



NEXT WEEK
PREDATOR X REACHES THE MANSION.
A DOUBLE CROSS.
LAYLA AND MADROX: NO WAY HOME.



VARIANT COVER



Steam Scan

DOP